

CRWP-4768-2021

Date of Decision: 25.05.2021.

RITIKA AND ANOTHER

...Petitioners

vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

...Respondents

Coram : Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.S. Walia.

Present: Mr.Sanjeev K. Virk, Advocate for the petitioners.

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B.S. Walia, J. (VC)

1. Case is being taken up for hearing through Video Conferencing due to Covid-19 pandemic.
2. Prayer in the Criminal Writ Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India is for the issuance of directions to respondent Nos. 2 & 3 to protect the life and personal liberty of the petitioners as also to restrain respondent Nos.4 to 8 from harassing and interfering in the peaceful life of the petitioners.
3. Learned counsel contends that the petitioners who are Hindus fulfill all the conditions stipulated under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 so as to entitle them to get married as petitioner No.1 is 20 years of age as is evident from Aadhar Card Annexure P/1 in which her date of birth is mentioned as 16.02.2001 while petitioner No.2 is 24 years of age as is evident from Aadhar Card Annexure P/2 wherein his date of birth is mentioned as 12.08.1997 and on account of mutual liking for each other and without any fraud, force, pressure, coercion or undue influence the petitioners got married on 20.05.2021 as is evident from marriage certificate Annexure P/3 and photographs Annexure P/4, though against the wishes of respondent Nos.4 to 8 who are threatening them with harm to their life and liberty, therefore, the petitioners submitted representation Annexure P/5 dated 20.05.2021 to respondent No.2 i.e. Senior Superintendent of Police,(Rural) Jalandhar, seeking protection of their life and liberty but no action has been taken

satisfied if the petition is disposed of by directing respondent No.2 to consider and decide the representation Annexure P/5 in accordance with law, in a time bound manner and to provide protection to them.

4. Notice of motion to respondent No.2 only.

5. Mr. Hittan Nehra, learned Additional Advocate General, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.2 and states that he has no objection to the limited prayer made by learned counsel for the petitioners.

6. Accordingly, in view of the decision of Hon'ble the Supreme Court in **Lata Singh vs. State of UP and others, JT 2006 (6) SC, 173** but without commenting upon the age of the petitioners, validity of their marriage or the authenticity of the documents attached with the petition, the petition is disposed of by directing respondent No.2 i.e. Senior Superintendent of Police, (Rural) Jalandhar, to consider and decide representation, Annexure P/5 dated 20.05.2021, submitted by the petitioners in accordance with law as expeditiously as possible and take such action in respect thereto to provide protection to the petitioners as may be warranted in the facts of the case keeping in view the threat perception to the petitioners. However, it is made clear that this order shall not bar any civil or criminal proceedings initiated against the petitioners in accordance with law.

**(B.S. Walia)**  
**Judge**

25.05.2021.

'Rajesh'

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No  
Whether reportable : Yes/No